

Message

From: O'Connor, Daniel [oconnor.daniel@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/14/2021 2:02:37 AM
To: Hayes, Scott [Hayes.Scott@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Doug [Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

I'll draft something and work with Doug to make sure it's accurate.

Danny O'Connor
Acting Chief, Response, Removal, and Emergency Preparedness Section
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
Phone: 913-551-7868

From: Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 7:28 PM
To: O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Doug <Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Some comprehensive situational
Assessment would be good.

Scott D. Hayes, Deputy Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region 7
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
913-551-7670
Sent from my iPhone - please excuse typos

On Feb 13, 2021, at 7:22 PM, Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov> wrote:

Let's talk first thing in the morning or as soon as we can.

Ed needs to call the NDEE director in the morning with a good description of what's going on. I don't have that yet. Thanks for your response so far

Scott D. Hayes, Deputy Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region 7
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
913-551-7670
Sent from my iPhone - please excuse typos

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hayes, Scott" <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Date: February 13, 2021 at 7:07:00 PM CST

To: "Chu, Ed" <Chu.Ed@epa.gov>
Cc: "Tapp, Joshua" <Tapp.Joshua@epa.gov>, "Juett, Lynn" <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>, "Buchholz, Ken" <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>, "Curry, Tim" <Curry.Timothy@epa.gov>, "Ferguson, Doug" <Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov>, "O'Connor, Daniel" <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>, "Cozad, David" <Cozad.David@epa.gov>, "Peterson, Mary" <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>, "Humphrey, Leslie" <Humphrey.Leslie@epa.gov>, "Weekley, Erin" <weekley.erin@epa.gov>, "Peterson, Mary" <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Ed,

Daylight has restricted activities at the scene. Doug will focus on containing the off-site migration of the material, with the facility, in the morning. My understanding is they have been cooperative to this point.

Scott

From: Hayes, Scott
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Chu, Ed <Chu.Ed@epa.gov>
Cc: Tapp, Joshua <Tapp.Joshua@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>; Buchholz, Ken <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Curry, Tim <Curry.Timothy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Doug <Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Humphrey, Leslie <Humphrey.Leslie@epa.gov>; Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Ed,

Updated information:

There was a 4M gallon tank of concern that was leaking. This tank apparently had the pesticide containing material. The tank is no longer leaking. The material level is below the leak point.

There is a second 4M tank of the same or similar material. These tanks have been known by the regulatory agencies, apparently, for quite some time.

The current spill has traveled off the facility. EPA and NDEE have collected samples and are sharing data as it is obtained. The facility is collecting material that has migrated off of the facility and returning it to lagoons on the facility.

There is a concern with building additional retention structures off of the facility due to the unavailability of soil.

Scott

From: Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 3:36 PM
To: Chu, Ed <Chu.Ed@epa.gov>
Cc: Tapp, Joshua <Tapp.Joshua@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>; Buchholz,

Ken <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Curry, Tim <Curry.Timothy@epa.gov>; Ferguson4, Doug <Ferguson.Doug@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Humphrey, Leslie <Humphrey.Leslie@epa.gov>; Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>; Hayes, Scott <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>

Subject: AltEn...Fwd: Response request

Ed,

I just talked to Danny O'Connor, Section Chief with our removal program. Doug Ferguson, OSC, just got up to the scene recently and he's meeting with the senior responder from Nebraska, Kirk Morrow. Doug has contractor support with him. Kirk has been with the Nebraska program a long time. They're getting together on the results of sampling and what needs to be sampled, etc, and then they're trying to make contact with the facility. That's where we are right now. I'll let you know when they make contact with the facility and see if they can get any more commitment for responsive measures from the PRP in place.

Scott D. Hayes, Deputy Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region 7
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
913-551-7670

Sent from my iPhone - please excuse typos

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hayes, Scott" <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>
Date: February 12, 2021 at 11:14:29 PM CST
To: Jim Macy <jim.macy@nebraska.gov>
Cc: "Cozad, David" <Cozad.David@epa.gov>, "steve.goans" <steve.goans@nebraska.gov>, kirk.morrow@nebraska.gov, "Buchholz, Ken" <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>, "Hoefer, David" <Hoefer.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Response request

Jim,

Yes. On-Scene Coordinator Doug Ferguson plans to mobilize in the morning.

Scott D. Hayes, Deputy Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US EPA Region 7
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
913-551-7670

Sent from my iPhone - please excuse typos

On Feb 12, 2021, at 9:42 PM, Macy, Jim <jim.macy@nebraska.gov> wrote:

Scott

We have an emergency at a ethanol plant near Mead Nebraska called Alt En. They have a shut down order from us and in process of shutting down they are freezing up and have about 4 million gallons of thin silage and a liquefied imanure going off site. Would you have ability to assist?

Immediate concern is the ability of the plant to control leaks during this sub zero weather. Additionally the facility has several vessels that contain a pesticide used in seed corn production that we have found to bioaccumulate in the wet cake and process water. The lagoons are approximately Within 2 feet of topping

Late today the site experienced compounding emergencies with two additional undisclosed vessels that contain liquid manure and are also freezing and or have potential to rupture.

We need assistance to asses the site, make technical recommendations on contain/control and overall management. As of 1730 ndee has taken effluent samples approximately 1 mile downstream from site. This is already impacting University of Nebraska research fields.

Please keep this list informed of next steps.

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